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CRITICISM OF A KRAJ PARTY ORGANIZATION;  
PARTY WORK IN CZECHOSLOVAK PRISON-GUARD CORPS

[This report consists of two articles dealing with party work in Czechoslovakia. The articles appeared in the Hungarian periodical Funkcionar. The first criticizes the Hradec Kralove kraj party organization and calls for more efficient administration, better use of the kraj committee apparatus, and stronger party leadership. The second discusses party work in the Czechoslovak Prison-Guard Corps.]

CRITIQUE OF THE HRADEC KRALOVE KRAJ PARTY ORGANIZATION

At the December 1951 session of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, Gottwald charged all Communists with seeing that the liquidation of enemy agents is accompanied by the methodical repair of damage inflicted by traitors and enemies of the party and the working people.

The top officials of the Hradec Kralove kraj party organization did not realize fully the meaning of Gottwald's words. The fact that no saboteurs were discovered in the kraj organization itself made them less vigilant, and they failed to oppose and abolish certain improper, non-Bolshevik methods which saboteurs had managed to introduce into the organization's work.

The work of the kraj organization is stereotyped and mechanical, as manifested in formalistic planning and automatic delegation and acceptance of party tasks. This leads to evasion of the proper performance of duties and to reduced potency and influence of the party in the kraj.

Therefore, the Organizational Secretariat of the party's Central Committee, as of 25 March 1952, recommends to the Hradec Kralove kraj party committee that it critically evaluate its current work methods and in improving them concentrate on the following main objectives:

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Increased Efficiency of Administration

The policy of automatic delegation and acceptance of party duties must be discarded. Instead, officials and members in all party agencies and organizations must be convinced of the correctness of the decisions of the Central Committee and the government. They must be guided to fight firmly and fearlessly to overcome any difficulty and to fulfill these decisions.

Fundamental decisions of the kraj committee, together with those of the Central Committee and the government, must become a basis for the work of the presidium of the kraj committee and the whole kraj apparatus. Therefore, the decisions of the kraj committee must be clearly defined as the outcome of the committee's negotiations, and not simply approval of the text of reports. This will raise the level of the meetings of the kraj committee, especially of its discussions. The presidium of the kraj committee is responsible for implementing the decisions of the kraj committee. It determines the specific goals of the decisions, assigns them to party agencies and organizations, and supervises their execution. The intensified activity of the members of the kraj committee is to be assured by regular assignments of actual party tasks, so that their function will not be limited to mere participation in meetings of the kraj committee.

In carrying out decisions, the kraj committee operates with activist groups. However, their sessions must not be held according to a fixed schedule, or be limited to meetings of the kraj committee. They must convene whenever the actual needs of the party administration require.

The presidium of the kraj committee must abandon the formalistic planning of work and individual programs which impair its efficiency. It must plan its work on the basis of a sound analysis of the political tasks to be performed in the kraj and in compliance with the decisions of the Central Committee and government. The work is not to be set up on the basis of routine coordination of proposals prepared in the various departments of the kraj committee, but rather in accordance with the directives of the presidium of the committee. It assigns the tasks and determines their urgency. The work plan must give the presidium of the kraj committee freedom to handle whatever problems come up in the everyday party work in the kraj.

The presidium of the kraj committee must liquidate the existing practice of the okreses copying work plans and decisions of the kraj agencies. Instead, it must encourage initiative in the okres committees in discharging and supporting party tasks and activating the primary party organizations. At the same time, the kraj committee must direct the attention of the okreses to the key positions in their okres, to the key plants, machine-tractor stations, state farms, and the most important rural organizations.

To stimulate initiative and activity in the okreses and in the primary organizations, the presidium of the kraj committee must change the pattern of its work. It must adopt fewer general resolutions and assign to the okreses and to primary organizations increased numbers of definite projects based on the decisions of the Central Committee and the government. Such assignments lead to the development of initiative in party organizations. In long-term projects, the presidium should always state detailed objectives so that the decisions do not lose their effectiveness. Supervision of the implementation of decisions must be substantially improved. The kraj agencies must not limit their supervision to administrative checking of the distribution of directives to the okreses. Okres committees and primary organizations must be instructed that in their reports to the controlling agencies they should not simply list programs carried out in response to the decisions but should also evaluate the results of the completed work. All organs and units must learn, under the guidance of the kraj party administration, the Bolshevik method of supervision, which starts with the

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approval of the decision, consists of a continuous follow-up of its implementation, and provides continuous assistance in the implementation of the decisions. Such supervision gives the party administration an opportunity to evaluate the individual officials properly, to help educate party personnel, and to facilitate the correction of errors.

#### Better Administration and Efficiency of the Kraj Committee Apparatus

Energetic and efficient administration of the kraj organization requires better direction and use of the staff of the presidium of the kraj committee.

The staff of the kraj committee must be encouraged to show greater responsibility in preparing the background material necessary for the work of the elected officials. This can be accomplished if workers are always thoroughly briefed on the assignments received by the kraj committee and if the leading secretary and the secretaries of the kraj committee effectively assist the sections in working out specific tasks. The kraj committee staff shows definite initiative and interest in carrying out assignments, but there is a complete lack of consistent and purposeful guidance of the kraj committee. The initiative and the interest of workers have often found their outlet in fruitless organizing and preparing of unnecessary documents. This initiative and interest must be turned in the right direction, to the preparation of better-quality documents for the use of elected officials, and to systematic supervision of the implementation of decisions of the Central Committee and the kraj committees. The kraj committee staff must in the future devote considerably more attention to personnel work and to assisting the improvement of personnel work in the okres committees.

The political workers of the kraj committee must participate in everyday party work in the okreses and primary organizations and particularly must help increase the efficiency of the okres committees' staffs. Their participation in daily party work is necessary to enable them to supervise the implementation of the decisions of the Central Committee and the kraj committee and to supply them with the practical experience needed for the work of the party agencies in the kraj.

The kraj committee staff must bring order into party administration. The current administration has many shortcomings and is a poor recommendation for the staff workers.

There should be no superfluous and hasty staff meetings; the kraj committee staff meetings need not be too frequent, but all questions on their agenda must be thoroughly discussed and explained. This will stimulate the initiative and self-reliance of individual workers and lead to their political growth.

#### Stronger Party Leadership

The kraj party agencies cannot consider satisfactory the guidance they have rendered the Communists in key positions in the economy, the people's administration, and the mass organizations. Particularly weak is the support of Communists in the Kraj Trade-Union Council.

If this situation is to be changed, high officials must follow and support more extensively the work of Communists in the economy, the state administration, and the mass organizations.

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The presidium of the kraj committee must give Communists in key positions a greater opportunity to discuss their work. It should, for example, often invite top workers, both economic and political, from the textile industry to learn about the fulfillment of party and governmental decisions on cotton and to assist these comrades in solving issues and problems. The presidium should hear in its meetings the reports of top workers from the heavy machine building, mining, and other industries, the state administration, and the mass organizations.

The need for assistance to comrades in the trade unions seems to be especially pressing. The kraj committee should make this work the subject of special consideration and prepare effective directives to improve trade-union work in the area. Effective support is to be achieved through party factory organizations and through reinforcing the personnel in the administration of the Kraj Trade-Union Council.

Communists in key positions must be encouraged to discharge fully the assignments made by the central bodies, and to show more responsibility for their work along with increased party and state discipline.

The role of the kraj committee staff in the support and guidance of mass organizations should be increased. The kraj committee staff must cooperate closely with the workers of mass organizations and together with them submit to the party administration questions on political organization and political reliability that require action by the elected body.

The kraj committee must make better use of all the instruments at its disposal to assert fully the party leadership in the kraj, and to provide for implementation of the decisions of the Central Committee and the government in all sectors of the political, economic, and cultural life of the kraj.

The organizational secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia has asked all kraj committees to use this document for their information and for improving their work methods.

#### PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK PRISON-GUARD CORPS

Communist Party organizations are being established within the Czechoslovak Prison-Guard Corps (Sbor Vezenske Straze), in accordance with a decision of the party's Central Committee. At the meetings of these organizations, party members receive instructions regarding directives for the organizations' work.

The party organization in the Prison-Guard Corps Headquarters is administered by the Central Committee of the Communist Party. The Central Committee appoints to this organization an instructor who assists in carrying out its work, conveys the instructions and directives of the Central Committee, and reports to the Central Committee on the organization's activity. The organization submits to the Central Committee monthly reports on its activities, on the progress of the Year of Party Training, on membership, on meeting schedules, submits plans of action, etc. On controversial problems, it contacts the Central Committee directly. The Central Committee also decides appeals of the members from the organizations' decisions, and confirms acceptance of new members into the party, as well as expulsions.

In the krajs, Prison-Guard Corps party units are to be established in the kraj headquarters, penitentiaries, and kraj prisons. They will be administered by the kraj committees. The committees will also appoint the instructors, keep the roster of organization memberships, and handle issuing and accounting of the

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organizations' dues stamps. The organizations will submit to the kraj committee monthly reports on their activity. Appeals of the members from the organizations' decisions will be decided directly by the kraj committee. In cases of controversial problems, the organizations will apply to the Central Committee.

The party organizations in okres prisons are administered by the okres party committees. When there are less than three members, including candidates, the primary organization is the organization of the kraj Prison-Guard Corps headquarters, which follows the members' party work and scrutinizes their activity. Their roster is kept by the kraj committee.

Party organs and organizations of the Prison-Guard Corps are not subordinate to the political sections. The latter sections perform political duties in the Prison-Guard Corps and are required to assist the organizations in their activities. The work of the political sections originates in the directives of the Central Committee and is regulated by government decisions and orders of the Minister of Justice and of the Commander of the Prison-Guard Corps. The objective of the political sections in the Prison-Guard Corps is to rally all their members around the President of the Republic, the government, and the party.

The political sections are to lead all members of the Prison-Guard Corps in the full implementation of party and government decisions, and to educate them in the spirit of Marxist-Leninist teachings, socialist patriotism, and proletarian internationalism. They are to guide the members of the Prison-Guard Corps to show alertness and watchfulness, conscientious discipline, exemplary performance of duties, loyalty to their service oath, and high morale. The political sections are to encourage the members of the Prison-Guard Corps to reinforce and support at all times the commanders' authority. They are responsible also for the direction of classes and schools established to advance the service and the political readiness of the members of the Prison-Guard Corps. They are to help interpret important government directives and party measures to the working people, to stabilize the people's democratic legal system, and advance the socialist education of workers.

Elections of new committees will be held in all party units of the Prison-Guard Corps, in compliance with the decision of the Political Secretariat of the party's Central Committee.

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